2006-07. On bridge near Patna, an expenditure of Rs. 235.29 crore has been incurred up to 31.3.2006 and an outlay of Rs. 120 crore has been provided for the work during 2006-07. The physical progress of Munger bridge is abour 15% and of Patna bridge is about 40%.

Conversion of narrow gauge into broad gauge

†2393. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of narrow gauge lines that were proposed to converted in broad gauge lines during the year 2005-06, State-wise; and

(b) the number of lines converted, so far, and the estimated expenditure incurred on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No narrow gauge line was targeted for conversion during 2005-06. However, ten projects for conversion of narrow gauge into broad gauge have been taken up.

(b) Does not arise.

Assistance to SSIs in Andhra Pradesh

2394. SHRI GIRISH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made to assist SSI in Andhra Pradesh to boost their business;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The development of small scale industries is primarily the responsibility of the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Governments/Administrations. The Central Government, however, supports and supplements the efforts of the State Governments/UT

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.